

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Office Action of May 8, 2006. In particular, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 2, 16 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. *See* Final Office Action, page 11. Accordingly, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the recitations of Claim 2 and Claim 2 has been cancelled from the present application. Applicants have also amended Claims 3, 12, 14, 16 and 18 to conform the dependencies thereof to the cancellation of Claim 2. Furthermore Applicants have cancelled Claims 8-11 and 20 from the present application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 1 and the claims that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed herein.

The Claim Rejections

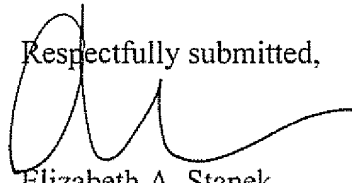
Claims 9-11 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,966,060 to Young *et al.* (hereinafter "Young"). *See* Final Office Action, page 7. Claims 1, 3-8, 12-15, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Young. *See* Final Office Action, pages 9. To expedite prosecution of this matter and without prejudice to Applicants' right to file a continuation application, the claims have been amended above to place this case in a form indicated as allowable. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of Claim 2, and Claim 2 has been cancelled from the present application. Furthermore, Claims 3, 12, 14, 16 and 18 have been amended to conform the dependencies thereof to the cancellation of Claim 2. Furthermore, Claims 8-11 and 20 have been cancelled from the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections should be withdrawn as obviated in light of these amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Elizabeth A. Stanek', written over the typed name.

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